

bicolor, a grassy leaved *Helonias*, *Amsonia angustifolia*, a new *Aristida* with remarkably long awns. After spending a few days in Augusta in the agreeable company of Dr. T. Wray I crossed the Savannah and have now crossed the center of South Carolina to this place. I cannot here detail to you in any way my discoveries in So. Carolina. I will just mention some of the principal—12 mls. from Augusta I found to my great gratification the singularly beautiful shrub *Ceratiola Ericoides* it looks exactly like a Cape heath, grows 12 feet high and was now filled with aggregate clusters of greenish yellow berries, and I have got abundance of its seeds. here I also found the *Iris tripetala* of Walter and a new *Liatris* perfectly smooth and branched from the base of the stem. Near Wilmington I have found the *Phlea tenuifolia* of Michaux and have sent roots to Anderson and ordered him to send you one.

If no extraordinary disappointment takes place with me I hope to ascend Red River of the Mississippi and examine the adjoining province of Mexico in wh. no doubt I shall meet a rich harvest of Botanical treasure.

Yours by every obligation

Thos Nuttall

Inclosed you will observe the *Tripterella coerulea*, is it not the *Burmennia biflora* of Linnaeus? I should be glad to know. Direct me at the Philadelphia Post-Office.

A NOTE ON *CERATOPHYLLUM DEMERSUM* AND *C. ECHINATUM* IN WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.—Until 1953, only one sheet of *Ceratophyllum* had been collected in fruit from Worcester County, Massachusetts. An ardent plant collector of herbarium specimens, Rev. Frank C. Seymour, has remembered that “I have searched for the fruit of *Ceratophyllum* all my life, but never found it.”¹ The late Dr. Fernald said “. . . We strained our backs, legs and eyes, bending over and carefully fingering, underwater, thousands of plumes of the *Ceratophyllum* in a vain search for fruit.”²

However, during the summer of 1953, while studying and collecting aquatic plants of Worcester County, numerous mature fruiting specimens of both *Ceratophyllum demersum* L. and *C. echinatum* Gray were found by the writer. According to Fernald,³ *C. demersum* “. . . needs careful collecting and study,” and *C. echinatum* is “. . . less often collected than No. 1.” [the previous species]

One specimen of *C. demersum* was collected in fruit from Bartlett Pond, Northboro, Mass., on August 6, 1953. Speci-

¹ SEYMOUR, F. C., Personal communication.

² FERNALD, M. L., Another Century of Additions to the Flora of Virginia, RHODORA 43, p. 508.

³ FERNALD, M. L., Gray's Manual of Botany, American Book Co., p. 636, 1950.

mens of *C. echinatum* were collected in fruit from the following stations:

Cider Mill Pond, Grafton, Mass., July 16, 1953.

Perry Pond, North Brookfield, Mass., August 11, 1953.

Muddy Pond, Oakham, Mass., July 17, 1953.

Cemetery Pond, Warren, Mass., September 18, 1953.

These specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of the Hadwen Botanical Club at the Biology Department of Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts.

After close study of the fruiting material and reference to Dr. Fassett's paper on *Ceratophyllum*,⁴ the sterile specimens in the Hadwen Herbarium have now been identified. It appears at this time that *C. echinatum* is more common in Worcester County than *C. demersum*. The former species has been found in 16 of the 60 towns, while the latter has been found in only 3 of the 60 towns in the county.

The fruiting specimens were found only where the plants were "rooted"⁵ in the muck substrate and completely submerged. No fruiting specimens were found floating in the ponds. Usually the fruiting specimens were found growing in extensive colonies in water ranging from 14 to 30 or more inches deep. At these depths, at least some of the fruits were definitely visible from the collecting boat. By passing one's hand over the growth to move it slightly, many more fruits were brought clearly into view. Finding the fruiting specimens of *Ceratophyllum* is more readily accomplished if the plants remain completely submerged than if they are removed from the water.—PHILIP G. MEISSNER, CLARK UNIVERSITY, WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

A METHOD OF MOUNTING PRESSED FLOWERS FOR STUDY AND PRESERVATION.—Some years ago, while I was working on the taxonomy of *Lupinus*, Professor Carl Epling of the University of California at Los Angeles, introduced me to a technique of boiling a flower in an electric baby bottle warmer, which eliminates the hazard of fire in an herbarium that might originate

⁴ FASSETT, N. C., North American *Ceratophyllum*, *Comunicaciones del Instituto de Investigaciones Cientificas*, No. 2, March 1953, *Universitas del Salvador*, Central America.

⁵ According to Muenscher in *Aquatic Plants of the United States*, "The roots are absent even in the seedling. The radicle does not enlarge or elongate during seed germination." p. 228-230.